

Colleagues,

Please find below the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) Modernization Initiative (NMI) Technical Assistance (TA) Coordination Team Update for September 25, 2015. These e-mail updates are a collaboration among the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), and the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) and are sent biweekly in an effort to keep reporting jurisdictions and other partners and stakeholders updated on the progress of NMI.

For more information on NMI, please see the NMI FAQs at <http://www.cdc.gov/nmi/faq.html>. If you have questions not answered in the FAQs, please send them to [edx@cdc.gov](mailto:edx@cdc.gov).

## **NNDSS Modernization Initiative Biweekly Update** **September 25, 2015**

### **Message Mapping Guide Development Updates**

- The Message Mapping Guide (MMG) development team will make minor updates to the MMGs, Test Scenarios (TS), and Test Messages (TM) for Generic v2, Hepatitis, STD, Congenital Syphilis, Mumps, and Pertussis to improve consistency in format and wording across these documents.
  - The team updated the Generic v2 MMG, TS, and TM with new LOINC codes.
  - The team expects to post updated pilot test-ready versions of all the MMGs and their associated artifacts to the [Draft MMG Web Site](#) in November.
- The team is preparing a frequently asked questions (FAQ) document about case notification implementation and will post it to the [Draft MMG Web Site](#) as soon as possible.
  - One highlighted FAQ is the following:

**Q:** Which preferred or optional data elements in the MMGs should be sent in the HL7 case notification messages?

**A:** Regardless of whether a data element is considered preferred or optional, jurisdictions should send all the data elements they collect in their surveillance information system that are requested in the MMG.
- The team is preparing best practices to use for new MMG development.
- The team has updated the National Condition Reporting Case Notification Message Structure Specification/Profile Release 3.0 and expects to post it to the Draft MMG Web Site in October.
- CDC submitted the 2015 Office of Management and Budget Paperwork Reduction Act package for NNDSS on 9/9/15. CDC seeks approval to collect new data elements to support MMGs that are in progress as well as data for newly added notifiable conditions and specifically requests permission for the following:
  - Replace “Hepatitis C virus, past or present” and “Hepatitis C, acute” with “Hepatitis C” on the List of Nationally Notifiable Conditions.
  - Replace all listed Arboviral conditions with an inclusive category, “Arboviral Diseases,” on the List of Nationally Notifiable Conditions.
  - Receive case notification data for Hantavirus infection, non-Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome.
  - Receive case notification data for Acute Flaccid Myelitis should it become nationally notifiable.

- Receive case notification data for Amebic Encephalitis should it become nationally notifiable.
- Receive new laboratory and vaccine data elements for all conditions.
- Receive new disease-specific data elements for Mumps, Pertussis, Varicella, Arboviral Diseases, and STD.
- Use the non-substantive change request method in the future to request approval to receive case notifications for new nationally notifiable conditions as well as new core, laboratory, vaccine, and disease-specific data elements.
- **MMG Status Updates:**
  - **Arboviral MMG (Requirements Analysis)**
    - Requirements analysis is approximately 95% complete.
    - CDC program approval is being sought for the proposed data elements for inclusion in the draft Arboviral MMG.
  - **Varicella MMG (Message Design and Development)**
    - Requirements analysis is 100% complete.
    - The CDC program has reviewed both sections of the draft MMG and provided feedback.
  - **Mumps and Pertussis MMGs ([Stage I—Draft Phase](#))**
    - The CDC program approved the pilot test-ready Mumps and Pertussis MMGs, TS, TM, and annotated case surveillance worksheets.
    - All artifacts have been cleared internally and will be posted to the Draft MMG Web Site as pilot test-ready drafts when the data elements needed for linkage to the vaccine-preventable disease lab data are fully defined. The current draft Mumps and Pertussis MMGs will be removed from the Draft MMG Web Site in September.
  - **Congenital Syphilis and STD MMGs ([Stage II—Pilot Test-ready Draft Phase](#))**
    - The MMG development team posted pilot test-ready versions of the STD and Congenital Syphilis MMGs and their artifacts to the Draft MMG Web Site.
    - The team will add a new data element for neurological manifestations to the STD MMG.
    - The team will post revised versions of the pilot test-ready Congenital Syphilis and STD MMGs and artifacts to the Draft MMG Web Site once they have completed updates to help improve consistency in format and wording across the MMGs and artifacts (expected time frame is November).
  - **Generic v2 and Hepatitis MMGs ([Stage II—Pilot Test-ready Draft Phase](#))**
    - The MMG development team updated the pilot test-ready versions of the Generic v2 and Hepatitis MMGs and their artifacts to incorporate new LOINC codes.
    - The team will post the revised MMGs and artifacts to the Draft MMG Web Site once they have completed updates to help improve consistency in format and wording across the MMGs and artifacts (expected time frame is November).
    - The team revised TM #3 for the Generic v2 MMG because it contained the event code for Listeriosis, which is not a condition that can be submitted by using the Generic v2 only MMG. Generic TM #3 will be updated to replace Listeriosis with foodborne botulism.
  - No guides are in [Stage III—Final MMG Phase](#) at this time.

### Message Validation, Processing, and Provisioning System Updates

- The Message Validation, Processing, and Provisioning System (MVPS) team is transitioning from the current MVPS developer to the new MVPS developer. The focus is on transitioning code and related artifacts and creating comprehensive documentation.
  - Knowledge transfer from the outgoing developer to the MVPS team and the new developer was completed on 9/23/15.
  - The new MVPS developer will use the next month to familiarize themselves with the MVPS code and provide CDC with an assessment of the code base prior to committing to schedules for necessary updates to the code or delivery of new code.
- CDC received the final code delivery from the current developer on 9/9/15.
  - The MVPS team loaded the 9/9/15 MVPS build to the development environment for technical acceptance testing.
  - The team tested the METS code and moved it to production on 9/17/15.
- CDC programs completed user acceptance testing (UAT) of the MVPS Dashboard and message processing functionality on 9/15/15.
  - The MPVS test team submitted change requests to address the defects identified and initiated a number of enhancement requests as a result of findings and suggestions.
  - The MVPS team resolved the issues between MVPS and the CDC Secure Access Management Services (SAMS) forwarder so jurisdiction UAT is anticipated to begin soon.
- The MVPS team is working on the data provisioning requirements and developing the message processing guides for Congenital Syphilis, Mumps, and Pertussis.
- The MVPS team is participating in development of the Arboviral and Varicella MMGs.

### Technical Assistance Updates

- The NMI Technical Assistance Workgroup (representing CDC, APHL, and CSTE) met onsite at CDC from 9/16/15 to 9/18/15. At the meeting, attendees covered high-level planning for the NMI TA effort as well as detailed process planning for case notification implementation.
- **Update on Jurisdiction Implementation:** The National Electronic Disease Surveillance System Base System (NBS) team provides technical assistance for NBS pilot jurisdictions, and the APHL TA team provides technical assistance for non-NBS pilot jurisdictions.
  - **Alabama:**
    - Alabama implemented the patch release for Beta 2 of the NBS 4.6 release that CDC provided on 7/27/15.
    - Currently, the state is testing STD messages by using METS and migrating STD data.
  - **Arkansas:**
    - Arkansas implemented the patch release for Beta 2 of the NBS 4.6 release that CDC provided on 7/27/15.
    - All of the state's Hepatitis test scenario notifications passed METS without errors after updating the test messages to account for METS known issues.
    - The state has completed message testing in METS and is ready to conduct end-to-end testing with CDC when MVPS is ready.
  - **California:**
    - California has produced a draft data extract for Hepatitis and STD and is currently creating the data extract for Generic v2.

- The APHL TA team is customizing the Rhapsody route for California that will create HL7 messages based on their data extract.
- **Florida:**
  - Florida has completed the gap analysis for Hepatitis, STD, and Generic v2.
  - Initial HL7 test messages for Hepatitis have been created. STD test messages are currently in development. The APHL TA Team will review and provide feedback on test messages as they are created.
- **Idaho:**
  - Idaho implemented the patch release for Beta 2 of the NBS 4.6 release that CDC provided on 7/27/15.
  - The state is currently testing STD messages by using the METS tool.
- **Kentucky:**
  - Kentucky implemented the patch release for Beta 2 of the NBS 4.6 release that CDC provided on 7/27/15.
  - All of the state's Hepatitis test scenario notifications passed METS without errors after updating the test messages to account for METS known issues.
  - The state has completed message testing in METS and is ready to conduct end-to-end testing with CDC when MVPS is ready.
- **Louisiana:**
  - Louisiana implemented the patch release for Beta 2 of the NBS 4.6 release that CDC provided on 7/27/15.
  - All of the state's Hepatitis test scenario notifications passed METS without errors after updating the test messages to account for METS known issues.
  - The state has completed message testing in METS and is ready to conduct end-to-end testing with CDC when MVPS is ready.
- **Michigan:**
  - Michigan has completed the full suite of test messages for Hepatitis and STD and is building Generic v2 test messages. The APHL TA Team will review and provide feedback on test messages as they are created.
- **Minnesota:**
  - Minnesota has completed the gap analysis and produced a draft data extract for Hepatitis and STD; the state is working on requirements for a data warehouse that will be used in the HL7 message route.
  - The APHL TA Team is customizing a Rhapsody route for Minnesota to create HL7 messages per the MMGs.
- **New York State:**
  - APHL is coordinating with New York to review their development work on Generic v2.
- **Oregon:**
  - Oregon has created HL7 test messages for Hepatitis and Generic v2 and is building the full suite of messages for STD.
  - The APHL TA Team continues to review and provide feedback on test messages as they are created.
- **Tennessee:**
  - Tennessee implemented the patch release for Beta 2 of the NBS 4.6 release that CDC provided on 7/27/15.

- The state is testing the base Hepatitis page and porting the legacy data to the new template.
- **Texas:**
  - Texas implemented the patch release for Beta 2 of the NBS 4.6 release that CDC provided on 7/27/15.
  - All of the state's Hepatitis test scenario notifications passed METS without errors after updating the test messages to account for METS known issues.
  - The state has completed message testing in METS and is ready to conduct end-to-end testing with CDC when MVPS is ready.
- CSTE will work with all of the pilot jurisdictions to evaluate the NMI TA efforts.
- Reminder about MMG status:
  - MMGs in Stages I and II are considered draft and may be revised until the time they are finalized.
  - Those jurisdictions selected for pilot testing of the test-ready versions (Stage II) of the MMGs should wait until contacted by the NMI TA team before using the test-ready MMGs, before implementing surveillance information system changes, and before submitting test messages to CDC.
  - All other jurisdictions should not plan to submit data to CDC or implement MMG-based updates to their surveillance information systems until the final MMGs (Stage III) have been posted.
- For more information about technical assistance:
  - Please see the NMI FAQs at <http://www.cdc.gov/nmi/faq.html>.
  - For pilot jurisdictions: If you have questions specific to NMI TA, please contact Laura Carlton, APHL, at [laura.carlton@aphl.org](mailto:laura.carlton@aphl.org).
  - For non-pilot jurisdictions: If you have questions or would like to request TA through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC) Cooperative Agreement, please email [edx@cdc.gov](mailto:edx@cdc.gov).

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